

**TITLE**

An Ostomy Appliance

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****5 1. Field of the Invention**

The present invention relates to an ostomy appliance comprising a receiving bag and a disposable bag liner and optionally a body side member, a disposable bag liner for use together with an ostomy appliance, and a method for applying such an ostomy appliance.

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In connection with surgery for a number of diseases in the gastro-intestinal or urinary tract a consequence is, in many cases, that the colon, the ileum or the ureter has been exposed surgically and the patient is left with an abdominal stoma, or, in nephrostomy or ureterostomy, the ureter or a catheter is exposed in the back or the chest region or abdominal region, and the effluents or waste products of the body, which are conveyed through these organs, are discharged through the artificial orifice or opening and are collected in a collection bag, which is usually adhered to the skin by means of an adhesive wafer or plate having an inlet opening for accommodating the stoma/ureter/catheter. Also in connection with a fistula, the patient will have to rely on an appliance to collect the bodily material emerging from such opening.

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Ostomy appliances are well known. Such appliances may be two-piece or one-piece appliances. In both types of appliances, an adhesive barrier member (or base plate) is attached to the wearer's abdomen/back/chest. In case of a one-piece appliance, a receiving member or bag is attached to the base plate. In case of a two-piece appliance, the adhesive base plate forms part of a body side member and a receiving member or bag is attached releasably to the body side member for receiving exudates from the stoma.

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When using one-piece appliances, the whole appliance, including the adhesive skin barrier securing the appliance to the skin is normally removed and replaced

by a fresh appliance. When using two-piece appliances, the body side ostomy member is left in place up to several days, and only the receiving member or bag attached to the body side member is replaced. The attachment means for attaching an ostomy receiving bag may be a system known per se comprising  
5 matching coupling rings or matching flanges and adhesive surfaces engaging with and sealing against a flange area of the body side member.

A known major problem with receiving bags is that it can be difficult to dispose of the used bag in a convenient and hygienic manner. Some ostomates will cut the  
10 used bags open, e.g. by cutting off an edge thereof and depositing the contents into a WC for flushing away and disposing or depositing the empty bag in a waste bin. Such disposal of used bags and the contents therein is indeed unhygienic and undesirable for the user, especially in public rest rooms, and in view of this a number of proposals have been made for ostomy bags which may be flushed  
15 down e.g. a WC.

## **2. Description of the Related Art**

Thus, US Patent No. 5,423,782 (Wolrich) discloses a disposable ostomy bag liner apparatus including a unitary flexible bag having a main body portion, a tapered  
20 portion and a flange portion in which the tapered portion is disposed adjacent the main body portion and together, the main body portion and tapered portion define an interior portion of the bag for receiving and hold intestinal waste material. The patent discloses a bag liner for use by colostomy and some ileostomy patients which is easy to install in a conventional ostomy bag, which has provisions to  
25 allow for escape of gas admitted into the liner and which is relatively inexpensive to produce.

EP Patent No. 0 768 848 (Welland Medical Limited) discloses a biodegradable, flushable ostomy bag liner comprising inner walls formed from  
30 polyvinylacetate/polyvinylalcohol film of a grade which disintegrates within 60 seconds in water at 50 °C but retains its structural integrity in water at 25 °C for at least two days, outer walls formed from a non-woven fabric which disintegrates in

water at 25 °C, means defining an opening in the inner and outer walls for receiving bodily waste from the stoma patient, an adhesive flange being secured to at least an inner wall of the liner and surrounding the said opening, wherein the walls of the inner and outer bags are unconnected and form a non-laminar arrangement over the greater part of their area, but are connected around their peripheral margins and in the region of the adhesive flange.

EP Patent No. 0 703 762 (Welland Medical Limited) forms basis for the invention disclosed in EP Patent No. 0 768 848 above and discloses a drainage bag for receiving bodily waste, the drainage bag containing an outer bag, a water-impermeable inner bag enclosed within the outer bag, the inner bag being of a structure which is weakened upon immersion in a WC bowl such that it becomes limp and is less buoyant thereby enabling it to be flushed away easily, and means defining an orifice to enable bodily waste to be received by the inner bag in which the outer bag is water-impermeable and is formed from a material which acts as a barrier to flatus gases. The outer bag is provided with a flatus filter, the inner bag is permeable to flatus gases, and the outer and inner bags are detachably secured together in the region of the orifice.

GB Patent Application No. 2 306 889 (Alcare Co Ltd) discloses a body waste receiving appliance comprising an adhesive plate with an opening to a wastes discharge hole or opening formed on the surface of a human body, a first flange secured to the non-adhesive side of said adhesive plate and having an opening corresponding to the opening of said adhesive plate, a second flange detachably mounted at the opposite side, with reference to said adhesive plate, of said first flange and having an opening corresponding to the opening of said first flange, an outer pouch secured at the opposite side, with reference to the adhesive plate, of said second flange and having an opening corresponding to the respective openings of said adhesive plate, said first flange and said second flange, and an inner pouch for receiving the body wastes through the respective openings of said adhesive plate and said first flange, said inner pouch being housed inside the outer pouch in such a manner as to be separable therefrom,

said outer pouch being formed of a non-water-soluble film, while said inner pouch being formed of a water-soluble film which is dissolved or disintegrated in water, said inner pouch being replaceable.

- 5 EP Patent Application No. 0 821 925 (Quacquarella) discloses an ostomy appliance comprising a reusable outer bag and a disposable inner bag, means for securing the two bags together and to the stoma, means for inserting and removing the inner bag from the outer bag, and means for closing the outer bag once the inner bag is in place.

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- In applicants own WO publication 01/82846 is disclosed an ostomy appliance comprising an adhesive barrier member (or base plate), said barrier member having a hole for receiving a stoma, ureter, or catheter and barrier wafer to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest; an outer receiving member or  
15 bag releasably attached to the adhesive barrier member, said bag having a hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner releasably attached to the adhesive barrier member wherein the disposable inner bag liner having a hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter is attached releasably to the adhesive barrier member in a first  
20 coupling area by first coupling means and the outer receiving member is attached releasably to the adhesive barrier member by second coupling means , in which the first and second coupling areas are in the form of one or more coupling rings and the first and second coupling means are in the form of matching coupling rings and wherein the outer diameter of the first coupling  
25 means is smaller than the inner diameter of the second coupling means.

- The purpose of the present invention is to provide an ostomy appliance combining the advantages of using a separate, flushable inner bags with an easy, safe, hygienic and discreet management of the collected waste with  
30 maximum safety against soiling parts of the appliance not to be substituted when substituting the inner bag, which inner bag may be used directly together with existing ostomy devices.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to an ostomy appliance comprising a base plate, said base plate having a first hole for receiving a stoma, ureter, or catheter and an adhesive wafer having a first surface to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest; a receiving member or bag releasably attached to the base plate, said bag having a second hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner forming a bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attached to the base plate, said disposable inner bag liner having a third hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter and being attached releasably to the base plate in a first coupling area by first coupling means and the receiving member being attached releasably to the base plate by second coupling means.

The invention also relates to an ostomy appliance comprising an adhesive wafer, said adhesive wafer having a first hole for receiving a stoma, ureter, or catheter, said adhesive wafer having a first surface to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest and a receiving member or bag attached to the base plate, said bag having a second hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner forming a bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attached to the adhesive wafer, said disposable inner bag liner having a third hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter being attached releasably to the adhesive wafer in a first coupling area by first coupling.

Furthermore, the invention relates to a disposable inner bag liner for receiving effluents or waste products of the body and for use together with an ostomy appliance comprising an adhesive wafer to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest and a receiving member or bag having a hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter, said disposable inner bag liner having a hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter and being capable of forming a bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attachable to the adhesive wafer in a first coupling area by first coupling means.

Still further the invention relates to a method of applying an ostomate an ostomy appliance.

### **Brief Description of the Drawings**

- 5 The invention is disclosed more in detail with reference to the drawings in which Fig. 1 shows parts of an embodiment of an ostomy appliance of the invention, Fig. 2 shows the parts shown in Fig. 1 after assembly with a base plate and applied to the user's skin
- Fig. 3 shows the embodiment of Fig. 2 during the first step of detachment,
- 10 Fig. 4 shows an embodiment of a disposable inner bag liner of the invention, Fig. 5 shows another embodiment of a disposable inner bag liner of the invention, and
- Fig. 6 shows a third embodiment of a disposable inner bag liner of the invention.

### **15 Detailed Description of the Present Invention**

In its broadest aspect, the invention relates to a disposable inner bag liner in the form of disc-shaped member comprising a ring-shaped element and a compacted inner bag liner made from a flushable material and being located in the central part of the ring-shaped element.

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- The present invention relates in a FIRST ASPECT to an ostomy appliance comprising a base plate, said base plate having a first hole for receiving a stoma, ureter, or catheter and an adhesive wafer having a first surface to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest; a receiving member or bag releasably
- 25 attached to the base plate, said bag having a second hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner forming a second bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attachable to the base plate in a first coupling area by first coupling means, said disposable inner bag liner having a third hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or
- 30 catheter and the receiving member being releasably attachable to the base plate by second coupling means wherein the first coupling means is in the form of an adhesive flange projecting from the rim of the third hole and having a surface for

releasable sealing against a second surface of the base plate facing away from the user.

5 In one embodiment of the invention the second coupling means is in the form of an adhesive flange projecting from the rim of the second hole and having a surface for adhesive sealing against the second surface of the base plate. The second hole is provided in the flange of the receiving member. The outer diameter of the first coupling means preferably is greater than the inner diameter of the second coupling means which allows the use together with coupling means  
10 in the form of matching adhesive flanges and also in the form of matching coupling rings.

It is suitable that the peel strength of the adhesive sealing of the first coupling means is greater than the peel strength of the second couplings means. This  
15 renders it easy selectively to detach the receiving member leaving the inner bag liner attached to a base plate. This may be effected by providing the flange with release properties on the surface facing the receiving member.

In another embodiment of the invention, the second coupling means is in the form  
20 of one or more coupling rings wherein the outer diameter of the first coupling means is smaller than the inner diameter of the second coupling means.

When the inner bag liner stays attached to the base plate, it acts as a drip-catcher and while the user attaches a fresh inner bag liner to the receiving  
25 member which may be reused several times. The inner bag liner will thus reduce the risk of escaping odour or soiling of the clothing by dripping output from the stoma.

Thus, the user may easily flush the contents of the receiving member in the WC and is not left with a soiled receiving member but rather with a receiving member, which may be used again or be disposed in a waste bin without obnoxious smells.

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This is especially advantageous for people living in flats and people bothered by leaving used ostomy bags giving rise to obnoxious smells in public toilets or at work or who might empty a used bag before disposing the same in the waste bin.

- 10 It is advantageous to provide the inner bag liner with a membrane allowing intestinal gas to escape from the inner bag but being impermeable to liquids in order to avoid ballooning. The use of an inner bag liner will in itself prolong the active service time of a filter of a receiving member as the contents of the receiving member is separated physically from the filter reducing the risk of
- 15 blocking.

The inner bag liner may be used with all types of stomas but the advantages are most pronounced in connection with colostomies and in particular ileo-ostomies where the users typically exchange receiving members two to three times a day.

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- In a SECOND ASPECT the invention relates to an ostomy appliance comprising an adhesive wafer, said adhesive wafer having a first hole for receiving a stoma, ureter, or catheter, said adhesive wafer having a first surface to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest and a receiving member or bag attached to
- 25 the adhesive wafer, said bag having a second hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner forming a bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attachable to the adhesive wafer by first coupling means, said disposable inner bag liner having a third hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter wherein the first
- 30 coupling means is in the form of an adhesive flange projecting from the rim of the third hole and having a surface for releasable sealing against a first surface of the adhesive wafer.



In a preferred embodiment of the invention the inner bag liner is compacted lengthwise to form a disc-like structure having an outer diameter less than the inner diameter of the first coupling means. Thus, a unit, which is simple to handle  
5 is provided which unit may be used with existing ostomy equipment.

The folding of the inner bag liner minimises the risk of "pancaking" and blocking of the bag as the inner bag liner is automatically gradually unfolded or stretched by the output from the stoma first contacting the bottom of the inner bag liner and pressing the same down into the receiving bag.

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In one embodiment of the invention the inner bag liner is provided with folding lines for compacting the bag lengthwise. The folding lines may suitably form a bellows, which ensures that output from the stoma is disposed directly to the bottom of the inner bag liner causing an unfolding only exposing the sides thereof  
15 after filling the lower parts which reduces the risk of adherence to the sides of the inner bag liner.

In another embodiment of the invention the folding lines form a telescopic bellows giving a relatively narrow front when the inner bag liner expands into the  
20 receiving member.

For keeping the disc-shaped member in a compact conformation, for easy handling and for protecting the inner bag liner before use it is suitable to provide the closed end of the compacted inner bag liner with a cover.

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In a third aspect, the invention relates to a disposable inner bag liner for receiving effluents or waste products of the body and for use together with an ostomy appliance comprising an adhesive wafer to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest and a receiving member having a hole for receiving wastes exiting  
30 the stoma, ureter or catheter, said disposable inner bag liner having a hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter and being capable of forming a bag inside the receiving member for being releasably attachable to the

adhesive wafer in a first coupling area by first coupling means wherein the first coupling means is in the form of an adhesive flange projecting from the rim of the hole and having a surface for releasable sealing against a surface of the adhesive wafer.

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The disposable inner bag liner of the invention may be used together with existing ostomy devices one-piece ostomy appliances and also together with existing two-piece ostomy appliances, such as appliances comprising a base plate and a receiving member releasably attached via matching adhesive flanges or via matching coupling rings. A preferred such use is together with one-piece appliances or together with two-piece appliances wherein a base plate and a receiving member are attached via matching adhesive flanges. A disposable inner bag liner of the invention may be used together with appliances having very flexible such flanges without compromising the overall flexibility provided that the ring-shaped element and the flange show at approximately least the same flexibility as the adhesive flanges.

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Thus, the inner bag liner is suitably made from a thin, water-impermeable sheet, which is not gas-tight. The bag liner is suitably in the form of a co-extruded or laminated sheet having a layer of water-soluble material such as PVA, PVAL or EVAL at the outer surface. The inner surface may suitably be made from a material, which may be processed into a thin layer without pinholes such as PE, EVA, PVC, PP, or a polyester which layer is impermeable for water vapour. The outer material may e.g. be in the form of a sheet or a non-woven material.

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An inner bag liner of the invention may be made from a material being permeable for tight and thus permitting intestinal gasses entering the bag to diffuse through the inner bag liner without giving rise to ballooning for management by a conventional gas venting and filtering system placed on the outer bag. The inner bag liner is preferably impermeable to water and water vapour in order to avoid leaking of liquid or passing of water vapour which would start a deterioration of the outer layer of the bag liner.

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An inner bag liner may be produced by a manner known per se for producing bags such as blowing and welding or by cutting separate walls which are then sealed along the rim in a manner known per se, e.g. using an adhesive or by welding. When producing the inner bag liner it is suitably taken into account to provide a shape, which is readily folded afterwards in a manner known per se for providing bellows or telescopic bellows.

In a fourth aspect, the invention relates to a method of applying to an ostomate an ostomy appliance comprising a base plate, said base plate having a first hole for receiving a stoma, ureter, or catheter and an adhesive wafer having a first surface to be attached to the wearer's abdomen, back, or chest; a receiving member or bag releasably attachable to the base plate, said receiving member having a second hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner forming a second bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attachable to the base plate, said disposable inner bag liner having a third hole for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter, said inner bag liner being compacted lengthwise to form a disc-like structure, and said inner bag liner being attachable releasably to the base plate in a first coupling area by first coupling means and the receiving member being attachable releasably to the base plate by second coupling means wherein the first coupling means is in the form of an adhesive flange projecting from the rim of the third hole and having a surface for adhesive sealing against a second surface of the base plate facing away from the user, said method comprising locating the stoma and applying the base plate, placing the inner bag liner and applying and sealing the same to the first coupling area, removing the release liner covering first coupling means if present, and attaching the receiving member to the base plate.

An adhesive wafer for a body side member or of a 1-piece ostomy appliance bag according to the invention may comprise a medical grade barrier adhesive known in art the such as the formulation being disclosed e.g. in US patent Nos.

4,367,732, 5,051,259, 5,714,225, 6,171,594, 6,303,700, 6,451,883, or 6,437,038, or in WO Application Nos. 00/54820, or 01/05340. For a 2-piece ostomy appliance according to the invention the body side member and the receiving member are provided with matching coupling means.

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A coupling means may be any system known per se for attaching receiving bags to ostomy body side members and may suitably be matching coupling rings of the type disclosed in WO 93/18725, WO 94/18919, WO 91/01118, WO 91/01119 or matching flanges for adhesive connection of the type disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 10 5,800,415, WO 00/30576, or WO 01/54632.

A carrier sheet present on the surface of the adhesive wafer facing the bag may be any suitable thermoplastic material known per se for use in the preparation of ostomy appliances e.g. a foam, a non-woven layer or a polyurethane, 15 polyethylene, polyester or polyamide suitable for attachment of a receiving member using an adhesive or by welding.

A collection bag may be made in analogy with and from materials conventionally used for the preparation of ostomy appliances. Such materials are suitably films 20 composed of any suitable material, which is heat sealable and sufficiently impervious for unpleasant odours such as polyolefin films or combinations of such films, e.g. polyethylene or a co-extrudate of polyethylene and polyvinylidene chloride. Suitably the bag is made from front and rear walls welded in a manner known per se along the rim forming a bag. When cutting or punching the walls, 25 an opening for receiving a stoma is suitably also punched in the wall to form the rear wall.

A protective cover or release liner may for instance be siliconized paper. The protective cover is not present during the use of the ostomy appliance of the 30 invention and is therefore not an essential part of the invention.

### **Description of the Preferred Embodiments**

The invention is now explained more in detail with reference to the drawings showing preferred embodiments of the invention.

Reference is made to Figs. 1 and 2 showing an ostomy appliance comprising an  
5 base plate, said base plate 1 having a first hole for receiving a stoma 2, ureter, or  
catheter and an adhesive wafer 3 having a first surface 4 attached to the wearer's  
abdomen (not shown), back, or chest; a receiving member or bag 5 releasably  
attached to the base plate, said bag having a second hole 6 for receiving wastes  
10 exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter; and a disposable inner bag liner 7 forming a  
second bag inside the receiving member and being releasably attached to the  
base plate, said disposable inner bag liner having a third hole 8 for receiving  
wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter and being attached releasably to the  
base plate in a first coupling area 9 by first coupling means and the receiving  
15 member being attached releasably to the base plate by second coupling means  
in the form of an adhesive flange 10 wherein the first coupling means is in the  
form of an adhesive flange 11 projecting from the rim of the third hole and having  
a surface for adhesive sealing against a second surface of the base plate facing  
away from the user and the flange 10.

20 In Fig. 1 the inner bag liner is shown in the form of a disc-shaped member in  
which the inner bag liner is compacted lengthwise and covered by a cover 13  
secured to the flange 11 and a release liner R covering the adhesive surface 9.

In Fig.2 the inner bag liner and the receiving member are assembled and applied  
25 to a base plate placed on the user's skin (not shown) with the stoma projecting  
into the inner bag liner and the receiving member. As appears, the top of the  
stoma presses the inner bag liner into the receiving member. The flange 10 of the  
receiving member is adhesively secured and sealed to a flange 18 on the base  
plate.

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In Fig 3 is shown the embodiment shown in Fig. 2 at the end of the service period  
during detachment of the receiving member and with the inner bag liner in a

stretched state with the its contents 14 received from the stoma. The cover 13 is detached and situated in the bottom of the receiving member 5, which is detached from the base plate. The inner bag liner is still attached to the base plate and is in the course of being pulled out from the receiving member.

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In figures 4-6 are shown alternative embodiments of a disposable inner bag liner of the invention in the form of various compacted disposable disc-shaped members for receiving effluents or waste products of the body.

- 10 The compacted disposable inner bag liner members comprise an inner bag liner 7 having a hole 8 for receiving wastes exiting the stoma, ureter or catheter and a first coupling area by first coupling means wherein the first coupling means is in the form of an adhesive flange 11 projecting from the rim of the hole 8 and having a surface 9 for adhesive sealing against a surface of a base plate, said adhesive
- 15 surface being covered by a release liner R. The flange 11 has an adhesive surface 12 for releasable sealing against a flange of a receiving member and is covered by a cover 13. The inner bag liner 7 and the flange 11 are secured to a ring-shaped element 16 stabilising the rim of the hole 8. A further ring-shaped element 17 located between the cover 13 and the flange 11 is shown in Fig.4.

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- The inner bag liner comprises a folded part 15 folded in different manners. In Figs. 4 and 6 is shown an inner bag liner folded forming a combination of bellows folded radially and longitudinally and a conventional bellows for lengthwise expansion, respectively, and in Fig. 5 is shown an inner bag liner folded forming a
- 25 telescopic bellows. Furthermore, different embodiments of the ring-shaped element 16 are shown in Figs. 4-6. The ring-shaped element may be made from a single or more materials as found suitable for the purpose, typically a foam material showing the desired flexibility and is suitably made from a biodegradable foam material.

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Still further, different embodiments of the flange 11 are shown. The flange shown in Fig. 4 is relatively narrow and is suitable for use together with two-piece

appliances, especially two-piece appliances comprising matching coupling rings for attachment of a receiving member to the base plate, for which purpose, it is suitable that the flange is not interfering with the coupling area of the coupling rings. The embodiments shown in Figs. 5 and 6 have broader flanges and are  
5 suitable for use together with two-piece appliances comprising matching adhesive flanges for attachment of a receiving member to the base plate or together with one-piece appliances.

Thus, the disc-shaped member of the invention may in one embodiment  
10 comprise the elements a) – f) starting from the side of the cover:

a) A relatively large transparent release liner (R) rendering it possible to see through the release liner during assembling the disc-shaped member and a receiving member to ascertain whether the disc-shaped member is located  
15 correctly (centrally) before the disc-shaped member is brought into sealing contact with flange of the receiving member.

The release liner may advantageously have an external diameter corresponding to the external diameter of the flange of the receiving member.

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b) A flexible and biodegradable or water-soluble adhesive located on the surface of the ring-shaped member (16) and or the flange (11) facing a base plate for securing the inner bag liner to the base plate during removal of the receiving member,

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c) A flange (11) made from a biodegradable or water-soluble material such as a foam material. This flange suitably shows releasing properties at the surface (12) enabling a releasable sealing against the adhesive of the flange (10) of the receiving member. Thus, the disc-shaped member may be repositioned on the  
30 flange (10) if necessary, and is secured to the flange of the receiving member so that the user does not risk losing the disc-shaped member during application of the receiving member to the base plate,

d) A folded, biodegradable or water-soluble inner bag liner (7),

5 e) A further ring-shaped element (17) which together with the hole (6) of the receiving member ensures a centering of the disc-shaped member, and

f) A biodegradable or water-soluble protecting cover (13).

10 In this embodiment, the risk of damaging the adhesive at the flange of the receiving member is reduced to a very high degree as the surface (12) of the flange (11) shows release-properties rather than adhesive properties.

In an alternative embodiment the disc-shaped member of the invention may comprise the following elements starting from the side of the release liner:

15 1) A relatively large transparent release liner (R) as stated above,

20 2) A biodegradable or water-soluble flange (11), e.g. a flange of foam, having a larger diameter and so as to allow adhesive engagement in the first coupling area (9) of the surface with at least a part the adhesive flange (18). This flange suitably shows releasing properties at the surface (12) as stated above,

3) A folded, biodegradable or water-soluble inner bag liner (7), and

25 4) A biodegradable or water-soluble protecting cover (13).

When using an appliance according to the invention, typically the following steps are carried out:

30 **Step 1:** Applying and sealing the disc-shaped member to the flange of the receiving member. The diameter of the release liner suitably corresponds to the diameter of the coupling flange of the receiving member for facilitating the



location using the rims of the flange and of the release liner for centering the disc-shaped member.

5 Alternatively, the flange of the disc-shaped member is transparent and has a diameter greater than the hole of the receiving member, and in this case the transparency of the release liner is utilised for ascertaining that the flange has sufficient contact to the coupling flange of the receiving member.

10 **Step 2:** After securing the disc-shaped member to the receiving member, the release liner is removed and the cover is suitably detached from the flange of the disc-shaped member by pressure from e.g. a finger for unfolding the inner bag liner sufficiently to accommodate the stoma in question, and the receiving member is attached to the base plate in the conventional manner according to the type of coupling means.

15 **Step 3:** The inner bag liner is automatically unfolded gradually according to the output from the stoma. The first output from the stoma will contact the inner bag liner at the bottom, which again will reduce the risk of "pancaking".

20 The inner bag liners of the state of the art are applied in an unfolded state and this will increase the risk of "pancaking", especially when used for colostomies as the output comprises very little water and will adhere to the top of the bag and not fall into the bag.

25 **Step 4:** During substitution the receiving member is detached in the usual manner and the inner bag liner is designed so as to ensure that it is easily withdrawn from inside the receiving member through the centre hole of the coupling flange.

30 **Step 5:** The adhesive at the flange of the disc-shaped member ensures that the inner bag liner stays adhered to the base plate. The inner bag liner acts as a drip-catcher and a fresh inner bag liner may be attached to the receiving member as

in step 1 at leisure without risking escaping odour or soiling of the clothing by dripping output from the stoma.

- Step 6:** When the fresh inner bag liner and the receiving member are  
5 assembled, the used inner bag liner is detached and may be flushed in the WC using a single flush.

The base plate and the stoma may be cleaned in the usual manner and the receiving member provided with a fresh inner bag liner is applied.